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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01
/107 W
----------003630 071250Z /43
R 070736Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1684
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 3006

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB IS ILO
SUBJ: DAYAN REFUSES MFA SUPPORT FOR HISTADRUT TRIP TO AFRICA

1. ACCORDING TO HISTADRUT INTERNATIONAL
DEPARTMENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR ISRAEL HERZ, DAYAN HAS VETOED MFA
FINANCING
OF HIS TRIP TO WEST AFRICA ON THE GROUND THAT HISTADRUT
AFRICAN ACTIVITIES WERE OF ONLY MARGINAL INTEREST TO THE
GOVERNMENT. REPORTEDLY DAYAN HAD THEREBY OVERRULED AN
EARLIER RECOMMENDATION OF HIS MINISTRY. HISTADRUT
GENERAL SECRETARY TRIED TO MEET WITH DAYAN BUT THE FOREIGN
MINISTER REFUSED TO SEE HIM.

2. THE HISTADRUT HAD BECOME PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO SEND
HERZ TO AFRICA IN THE LIGHT OF A RECENT REPORT THAT
DENNIS AKUMU, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ALL AFRICAN TRADE
UNION CONGRESS (AATUC) AT A MEETING IN ACCRA MARCH 5 AND 6,
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WAS
TRYING TO OBTAIN AN AFRICAN TRADE UNION CONSENSUS TO
OPPOSE THE HISTADRUT REELECTION TO THE ILO GOVERNING
BODY. BOTH IN GENEVA AND IN ACCRA HE HAD CHARGED THAT THE
HISTADRUT HAS
BECOME THE VOICE OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM ON THE GOVERN-
ING BODY AND WAS NOW SUBSTITUTING FOR THE US DELEGA-

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TION WHICH HAD LEFT THE ORGANIZATION.

3. HERZ CLAIMED THAT EVEN IF HE COULD NOT HAVE PREVENTED PASSAGE OF AN ANTI-ISRAELI RESOLUTION BY AATUC, HIS PRESENCE WOULD HAVE BEEN HELPFUL IN REINFORCING RESERVATIONS AMONG THE DELEGATES, MANY OF WHOM HAD BEEN HISTADRUT TRAINEES OF GUESTS IN ISRAEL. SINCE THE VOTE ON THE GOVERNING BODY MEMBERSHIP IN GENEVA WILL BE SECRET, THERE IS AT LEAST A CHANCE THAT A HOSTILE AATUC RESOLUTION WILL CARRY LITTLE WEIGHJ HISTADRUT IS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL OF DAYAN BE CAUSE, ACCORDING TO ITS REPRESENTATIVE ON THE GOVERNING BODY, GIDEON BEN-ISRAEL, THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THAT WITH SOLID ICFTU SUPPORT AN ISRAELI CANDIDATE COULD BE REELECTED. LEWIS

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